

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A keyswitch, comprising:
2 a plurality of legs interleaved together without a pivot point
3 approximately central to the plurality of legs, each of the plurality of legs
4 having a bottom surface; and
5 a spring to engage at least one of the bottom surfaces of the
6 plurality of legs.
- 1 2. The keyswitch of claim 1, wherein the spring engages both of the
2 bottom surfaces of the plurality of legs.
- 1 3. The keyswitch of claim 1, wherein the spring is constructed from a
2 material comprising a metal.
- 1 4. The keyswitch of claim 2, wherein the spring is constructed from a
2 material comprising a metal.
- 1 5. The keyswitch of claim 1, wherein the plurality of legs is
2 constructed from a material comprising a metal.
- 1 6. The keyswitch of claim 2, wherein the plurality of legs is
2 constructed from a material comprising a metal.
- 1 7. The keyswitch of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of legs has a
2 center and wherein each of the plurality of legs is undulated at
3 approximately its center.

1 16. The keyswitch of claim 15, wherein lateral movement of the
2 plurality of legs is constrained at the base.

1 17. The keyswitch of claim 14, wherein each of the plurality of legs has
2 a bottom surface and wherein the keyswitch further comprises:
3 a spring to engage at least one of the bottom surfaces of the
4 plurality of legs.

1 18. The keyswitch of claim 11, wherein the spring engages both of the
2 bottom surfaces of the plurality of legs.

1 19. A keyswitch comprising:
2 first and second legs each having a first end and a second end, the
3 first end having two lower protrusions and the second end having upper
4 protrusions, the lower protrusions of the second leg disposed between the
5 lower protrusions of the first leg; and
6 a base having a plurality of retaining clips, each of the lower
7 protrusions of the first and second legs pivotally engaged with a
8 corresponding one of the plurality of retaining clips.

1 20. The keyswitch of claim 19, wherein the first and second legs each
2 have bottom surfaces and wherein the keyswitch further comprises a
3 spring coupled to the base, the spring to engage at least one of the bottom
4 surfaces of the plurality of legs

1 21. The keyswitch of claim 20, wherein the spring engages both the
2 bottom surfaces of the plurality of legs.

22. The keyswitch of claim 19, wherein the first and the second legs each have a center and wherein the first and the second legs are undulated at approximately their centers.

23. The keyswitch of claim 19, wherein each of the upper protrusions has a slot and wherein the keyswitch further comprises:

a cap having a plurality of tabs, each of the plurality of tabs pivotally coupled to a corresponding slot, each of the plurality of tabs being able to translate with movement of keyswitch.

24. The keyswitch of claim 19, wherein each of the upper protrusions overlap a corresponding lower protrusion.

25. A keyswitch, comprising:

first and second legs each having a first end and a second end, the first end and the second end being separated in height by less than approximately 1 millimeter.

26. The keyswitch of claim 25, wherein the first and the second legs each have a constant thickness.

27. The keyswitch of claim 26, wherein the thickness of the first leg is approximately 0.25 millimeters.

28. A keyswitch, comprising:

a cap; and

3 a plurality of legs supporting the cap, each of the plurality of legs
4 being a leaf spring that has a cantilevered structure to support parallel up
5 and down movement of the cap.

1 29. The keyswitch of claim 28, wherein the plurality of legs are metal.

1 30. The keyswitch of claim 28, wherein one of the plurality of legs is
2 bowed.

1 31. The keyswitch of claim 28, wherein the bowed leg buckles when
2 compressed to provide tactile feedback.

1 32. The keyswitch of claim 28, wherein an end of each leg is attached to
2 a support and the cap is capable of vertical movement relative to the
3 support, and wherein a first plane defined by the cap and a second plane
4 defined by the support remain substantially parallel to each other during
5 movement of the cap.

1 33. The keyswitch of claim 25, wherein the height exists when the
2 keyswitch is not depressed.

1 34. A keyswitch, comprising:
2 a support;
3 a cap having a top and a bottom; and
4 a pair of legs coupled to the bottom of the cap and coupled to the
5 support, and wherein the keyswitch has a height, when fully depressed of
6 less than approximately 2.5 millimeters from the top to the support.

1 35. A keyswitch, comprising:

2 a spring having a first end and a second end;
3 a base;
4 a first compliant material disposed between the first end of the
5 spring and the base; and
6 a second compliant material disposed between the second end of
7 the spring and the base.

1 36. The keyswitch of claim 35, wherein the spring has a unitary body.

1 37. The keyswitch of claim 36, wherein the unitary body is bowed.

1 38. The keyswitch of claim 35, wherein the spring is constructed from a
2 material comprising metal.